of prices. This year the price has been revised four times by STC.

2. At none of the meetings prior to 29th July, 1991 has STC informed the newspaper industry of any unadjusted liabilities.

3. On July 3, the newsprint prices were revised to take into account both the devaluations and it was decided to review the prices after a month in case there was further deterioration in the exchange rate. There was no information given at the time by STC of a Rs. 60 crore liability which it is now trying to pass on to the newsprint users. The minutes of the meeting will bear this out.

4. The quantity of newsprint brought by the newspapers earlier has all been used and sold in the form of newspapers to the readers. It is impossible for the newspapers to realise this Rs. 60 crores from readers now. *This is a retrospective levy,* for which there is no retorspective recovery for the user.

5. The newspapers pay for the newsprint in advance before delivery. If STC has chosen not to pay the suppliers and retain this money for all those months/years to their advantage then they must bear the consequences of it too. How can helpless users be expected to pay for the foreign exchange risks of STC where such a forward cover is commonly available and is easily rolled over to any desired period?

6. STC is exploiting its position as a monopoly importer with a captive market and is attempting to pass the cost of its blunders to the hapless consumer.

This new unexpected burden on the price of newsprint is beyond the means of newspapers to bear specially the small and medium newspapers will definitely result in closures.

Decanalising the import of edible oils

1641. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to meet the scarcity of edible oils, Government have decided to decanalise the import of edible oils;

(b) if so, the precise situation and circumstances warranting the decision; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ensure the availability of imported edible oils through Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since the edible oil is still in the list of canalised items for import, the allocation thereof to States/UTs through Public Distribution System will be made as and when the imports are effected.

Haldia Petro-Complex Scheme

1642. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the broad features of the Haldia Petro-Complex Scheme indicating its foreign exchange contents; and

(b) how the foreign exchange content is sought to be secured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) West Bengal Indus-

trial Development Corporation (WBIDC) have been granted a letter of intent in August, 1990 for 30,000 TPA Ethylene capacity naptha cracker along with downstream units for manufacture of HDPE, LLDPE, Polypropylene, Styrene/Polystyrene, PBR etc. at Haldia in West Bengal. The total capital cost of the complex was estimated to be around Rs. 3,000 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 650 crores.

(b) According to a condition in the letter of intent, the Company will finance its foreign exhange requirements for import of capital goods, import of know-how, servicing of foreign equity foreign loan and import of feed stock, if any, through foreign exchange obtained by way of foreign equity participation, NRI equity on non-repatriable basis, commercial borrowings as may be permitted by Government according to financing plan that may be approved, for which debt servicing liability and any other foreign exchange costs should be met by export earnings of the company.

Production in Defence Factories at Jabalpur

1643. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the production figures and supplies made or orders complied with during the last three years, with respect to the various Defence factories in and around Jabalpur, especially the Gun Carriage Factory, Grey Iron Foundry Vehicle Factory and the Ordnance Factory (Khamaria);

(b) the details of the orders at hand in each of the factories;

(c) the total amount of overtime allowance paid to workers during each year (factory-wise); and

(d) the details of retrenchments and lay-offs during each year (factory-wise)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) It is not in public interest to disclose these details.

(c) A Statement is attached.

(d) 'Nil'.

Statement

Name of the Factory	YEARS		
	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
(Amount indicated below is in Rs. Lakhs)			
Gun Carriage Factory (GCF)	537.54	462.55	415.90
Grey Iron Foundry (GIF)	156.72	179.17	180.09
Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur (VFJ)	478.86	553.36	713.82
Ordnance Factory, Khamaria (OFK)	601.12	610.78	541.92

Code for Data Processing in Hindi

1644. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of different codes are being used by various manufacturers for data processing in Hindi; if so, the number of such codes in use;

(b) whether it is possible to convert Hindi automatically from one code into another;

(c) whether any standard code has been finalised by DOE, if so, when and the details thereof; and whether it is also a part of I.S.O. codes; and

(d) which organisations are following the DOE standard codes details in terms of organisations and products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. The latest draft standard for Indian Script Code for Information